

A TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF
REVEREND PAUL LOCATELLI, S.J.

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 15, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of a learned and distinguished priest, Father Paul Locatelli, S.J., who died at the age of 71 on the morning of July 12, 2010.

Father Locatelli was respected by all who knew him. An alumnus of Santa Clara University, he served the University he loved as its 27th President for 20 years. After the Presidency, he was named Chancellor. He then was appointed Secretary for Jesuit Higher Education for the Society of Jesus in Rome, a position he held until his death.

Father Locatelli was raised in Boulder Creek, California, and served in the U.S. Army after graduation from Santa Clara in 1960. Later, he joined the Society of Jesus and was ordained in 1974. He earned a doctorate in Business Administration at the University of Southern California and a Master of Divinity degree from the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley, where his work focused on ethics and values in contemporary society. Before becoming President of Santa Clara, he was its Academic Vice President and Associate Dean of Business, and was a member of the faculty in the Accounting Department.

The day Father Locatelli died, the Washington Post had a feature article about how today's college presidents were trying to find new ways to bond more with their students. The reporters didn't know Father Locatelli, but if they did, they would have found someone who was ahead of his time—an extraordinary university president who for years had developed relationships with students at Santa Clara University. He was eminently approachable, possessed a big heart, and had a genuine interest in every student's well-being.

His deep love for Santa Clara shone through in all he did, and his wisdom and erudition were widely known. The University flourished under his leadership, becoming one of the best Jesuit universities in America. Under his leadership the Alameda de las Pulgas was rerouted, more than 19 buildings and sports centers were built or renovated, and the endowment grew from \$77 million to more than \$700 million.

Father Locatelli was a remarkable Jesuit priest who had the rare ability to reach both the older members and the younger members of his order, the Society of Jesus — and was respected and admired by both. One Jesuit rector in Rome called him “a man of vision with a welcoming spirit.” He was also a priest of deep and abiding faith. His faith included an adamant belief that “Catholics should feel free to vote as they deem in the best interest of the nation and world.” He lamented those bishops who speak for the unborn but “turn Catholicism and morality into a single political or moral issue and some threaten to withhold communion from politicians.”

He had empathy for those who questioned God's compassion but counseled them that faith and compassion were needed most when times were difficult. In his widely quoted and poignant words of September 11, 2001, he said that “For persons of faith, and to be sure,

we are all people of weak and troubled faith today, there is a great need to trust that the God of life is more powerful than all the forces of death. There is also need for forbearance and forgiveness. If we do not trust in God and do not imitate God's mercy then evil will not be overcome by good. Just the opposite will happen, evil will have spread to us, generating despair and vengeance. And that will mean that evil will have overcome good.”

Father Locatelli — who was a great cook and an avid runner — was busy making plans for his 60th Santa Clara Reunion when he was diagnosed with an aggressive form of pancreatic cancer. His reunion will go on, and his classmates, including CIA Director Leon Panetta will attend and speak, but there most certainly will be a deep hole in their midst.

Madam Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in extending our deepest sympathies to Father Locatelli's family and to the entire Jesuit community. We honor his memory and the life he lived so well in extraordinary service to others. He made a difference in the lives of thousands of students and was a beloved counselor to me and many others. Father Locatelli will always be remembered as one who deepened our faith, who was a shining star amongst Jesuits as a superb educator and leader, who strengthened our entire community with his wisdom and leadership, and a man who loved his country and served it exceedingly well with his compassionate patriotism. God has prepared a high place in heaven for this extraordinary, holy and humble man.

THANKING SUSAN (SMITH)
RODRIGUEZ FOR HER SERVICE
DURING WORLD WAR II

HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 15, 2010

Mr. PLATTS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Susan (Smith) Rodriguez of Bethesda, Maryland, who in 1944 answered her Nation's call to service in a time of great need. Mrs. Rodriguez joins a special sisterhood of women who share a unique place in American history.

Mrs. Rodriguez was born in York, Pennsylvania, in my congressional district, where she later worked as a French teacher at the former York Collegiate Institute (now known as York College of Pennsylvania). To help in the war effort, she received her commercial pilot's rating and gave flight instruction to U.S. Army pilots throughout the spring of 1944.

Mrs. Rodriguez was later assigned to the Office of Strategic Services, America's first intelligence agency, where she was posted to Tangier, North Africa and served until the end of the war. Similar to the Women Airforce Service Pilots, whom earlier this year were rightfully awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for their service during World War II, Mrs. Rodriguez helped blaze a trail for women who seek to serve their country. The achievements of Mrs. Rodriguez and other female pioneers continue to inspire generations of young women to achieve the impossible.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I thank Mrs. Rodriguez for her service to the United States of America. I know that her family and friends join me in paying tribute to her.

FUNERAL OF JUDGE GERALD
HEANEY

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 15, 2010

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, Patriot. Jurist. Egalitarian. Self-effacing Humanitarian.

Each of us has a distinct, indelible memory of where and how we met Gerry Heaney. Mine starts in the Hotel Duluth in 1964—summoned to a meeting of attorney Gerry Heaney and Duluth labor leaders to be told that my boss, John Blatnik, must support the DFL-endorsed candidate for state Senate, Willard Munger, warning that if Frenchy La Brosse won, the DFL would be plunged into a divisive, fractious future. “We'll keep his feet to the fire,” said Gerry.

My last memory was a phone call two days before he succumbed to tell him of our committee works on the Oil Spill Accountability Act. His message—unchanged—“keep their feet to the fire. Make them pay every penny.”

A towering figure of the law, Judge Heaney wrote the St. Louis, Missouri, school desegregation decision, and then—for 20 years—held the school system's collective feet “to the fire” to assure compliance. The longest and most successful school desegregation case in our jurisprudence.

It was my privilege to video tape interview the judge for the Library of Congress project on WWII veterans.

He recounted the 6:30 a.m. landing at Omaha Beach. Their landing craft stopped short of the beach, because ships were blowing up right and left. The gate dropped in deep water. The captain shouted “All ashore” and was cut down by gunfire. The First Lt. stepped up and ordered “All ashore.” He was cut down. That left me, 2nd Lt. Heaney, in charge. I said, “We're not going through that door, everyone over the side.” And he saved countless lives.

“It took nine hours to climb 160 feet in three tenths of a mile and take out Nazi machine-gun nests. Then we turned back to the beach for supplies, and that's when we saw the carnage.” He stopped, choked, and cried. The Army doesn't give away the Silver Star. It's awarded for extraordinary heroism in combat against an enemy of the United States. Gerry Heaney earned it. From Normandy across Europe to the Czech border, and his remarkable American flag, Gerry Heaney personified exemplary courage under fire.

While still a sitting judge of the 8th Circuit, Gerry planned to participate in the 50th anniversary of D-Day. Without his knowledge, I called the top command of the Pentagon and White House liaison to have him seated on the dais, with presidents, prime ministers, and generals.

When I proudly called with the approvals, he said, “That's very nice, thank you. But I'd rather sit with my buddies. We fought shoulder-to-shoulder across Europe.” Grace and humanity, wrapped in self-effacing, unpretentious humility—caring about others more than himself.

In that same egalitarian spirit, the Judge never missed a Duluth Labor Day picnic since 1948. This year, we'll save a chair for him, observe a moment of silence, and hold him excused.

Master strategist, with a rare gift for no-nonsense analysis, his razor-sharp mind guided